

CAPSULE
FRAME DWELLING.

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Both the Chiffel map of 1852 and the Taylor map of 1857 indicate a "Coloured Methodist Meeting House" on this site and there is every reason to believe that blacks have been worshipping here since quite a few years before Emancipation.

In addition to the church building itself the site contains other dwellings and quite a few graves.

What is locally known as a "personage" is a small stone house, one room down and one above with a frame addition on the rear (west). No positive proof of its age has been found but it is said to be the oldest of the buildings on the site and contemporary with the original church. Not the least interesting structure here is a frame bungalow which in its original state was a board-and-batten longitudinally oriented residence very similar in appearance and plan to designs offered by Gervase Wheeler in the 19th century.

As a collection, these buildings and the accompanying graveyard are scarce evidence of the fact that blacks have been living, working and worshipping on this site for over one-hundred years and probably much longer. Before there was a Ruxton or a Lake Roland this area was farmed in the manner of a plantation and these buildings appear to be testimony to that fact.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1772
MAGI - 0317724604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

= Frame Dwelling

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bellona Ave. (Near St. John's Church)

CITY, TOWN

Towson

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ninth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Thomas John Hughes

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courts Building

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1772

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE Feb. 1979

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Contained in the group of structures near the St. John's Church are the two following buildings.

The southernmost is a bungalow probably dating from the first quarter of this century which rests on a particularly nice foundation made of a combination of rusticated formstone and local stone. While all of these buildings are quite close to the railroad track (30 - 40 yards) the orientation of the porch of this house to the lake is a very attractive feature.

This house, BA # 1772, is the other "bungalow" and is inbetween the stone structure (see BA # 1771) and the bungalow on the south. It is not a "bungaloid" in the early 20th century tradition but is instead much more like the cottages that Gervase Wheeler designed for lower income groups in the 19th century. The tall 2/2 windows and the presence of board-and-batten siding in the south gable contribute to the 19th century character of this house.

The residence is one tall story with an attic and a gable-end roof. It is characterized by its longitudinal plan. It is three short bays wide (central entrance) and three long bays in length. The interior plan provides for a center hall flanked by rooms and parlors with a kitchen in the rear (South). A shed roofed addition has been made to this end of the building.

On the exterior one can see weathered board-and-batten siding in the south gable and a casement window venting the attic. These features suggest the original appearance which the present imitation brick (asphalt) obscures. That the large house across the street (BA # 929) was Victorianized with board-and-batten siding and that the 1880's church next door is covered with the same material is indicative of the popularity of that style. It was on Downing's list of picturesque materials and seems to have been appropriate for the cottage as well as the mansion in this 19th century railroad suburb.

There is the foundation of an outbuilding on the east side of the house (garage?) and a shed roofed privy located only a few yards off of the southwest corner of the house. It is presently covered with the same siding that is on the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 4th Quarter 19th century. BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The handsome structure on Bellona Avenue called "St. John's Church" is a fine example of Victorian vernacular church architecture being a board-and-batten building made decorative by fishscale shingles, stained glass and stylized lancet-arch windows. Although constructed in 1886, it is not the original church on this site. The present building replaces an earlier church of undetermined date.

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Land Records
Map of Baltimore City and County, Robert Taylor, 1857.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II

ORGANIZATION HISTORIC TOWSON

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

BA-1772

CHAIN OF TITLE FOR FRAME DWELLING

<u>LIBER</u>	<u>FOLIO</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>
5477	481	September 9, 1974	Mary Edyth C. Hughes	Mary Edyth C. Hughes Thomas John Hughes
<p>Lot # 2 on Plat of Montrose...northeast side of Northern Central Rail Road with the northwest side of public road...northwest binding on Rail Road...South 20° East line of whole tract of land ...reversing...24.65 perches to a stone...North 85 3/4° East 5 1/2 perches to northwest side of road...southeast on road till beginning...containing 2 acres, 1 rood and 13 square perches.</p>				
5297	60	January 15, 1958	William F. Mckewen	Mary E. C. Hughes
534	212	November 15, 1920	Charles J. Rouchet	William F. Mckewen
534	210	November 15, 1920	William F. Mckewen	Charles J. Rouchet
498	59	April 5, 1918	James R. Warman	Henry & William Mckewen
455	477	December 29, 1915	James B. Finman	Mary Mildred Wright
433	109	July 21, 1914	Bridget Roddy (Finman's daughter)	Helen Mckewen
39	365	January 4, 1864	James L. McDaniel	Owen Finman



BALTIMORE COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING & ZONING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
494-3211

JOHN D. SEYFFERT
DIRECTOR

July 2, 1980

Mr. Mark Edwards
Maryland Historical Trust
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mark:

The correct owner of some properties surveyed by
Historic Towson has turned up. For the sites:

BA 1559

BA 1771

→ BA 1772

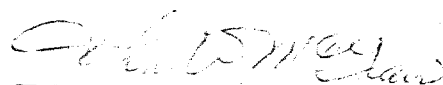
at 7534 Bellona Avenue, are part of the St. John's Methodist
Church complex. The state tax map does not show the parcel
at all. It belongs to St. John's Church, and tax bills are
mailed to:

Ms. Esther E. Scott
6201 Falls Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

The proper deed reference of 1866 is GH 51:134. None of these
parcels belong to anyone named Hughes.

Sincerely,

JWM:vh


JOHN W. McGRAIN
Executive Secretary
Landmarks Preservation Commission

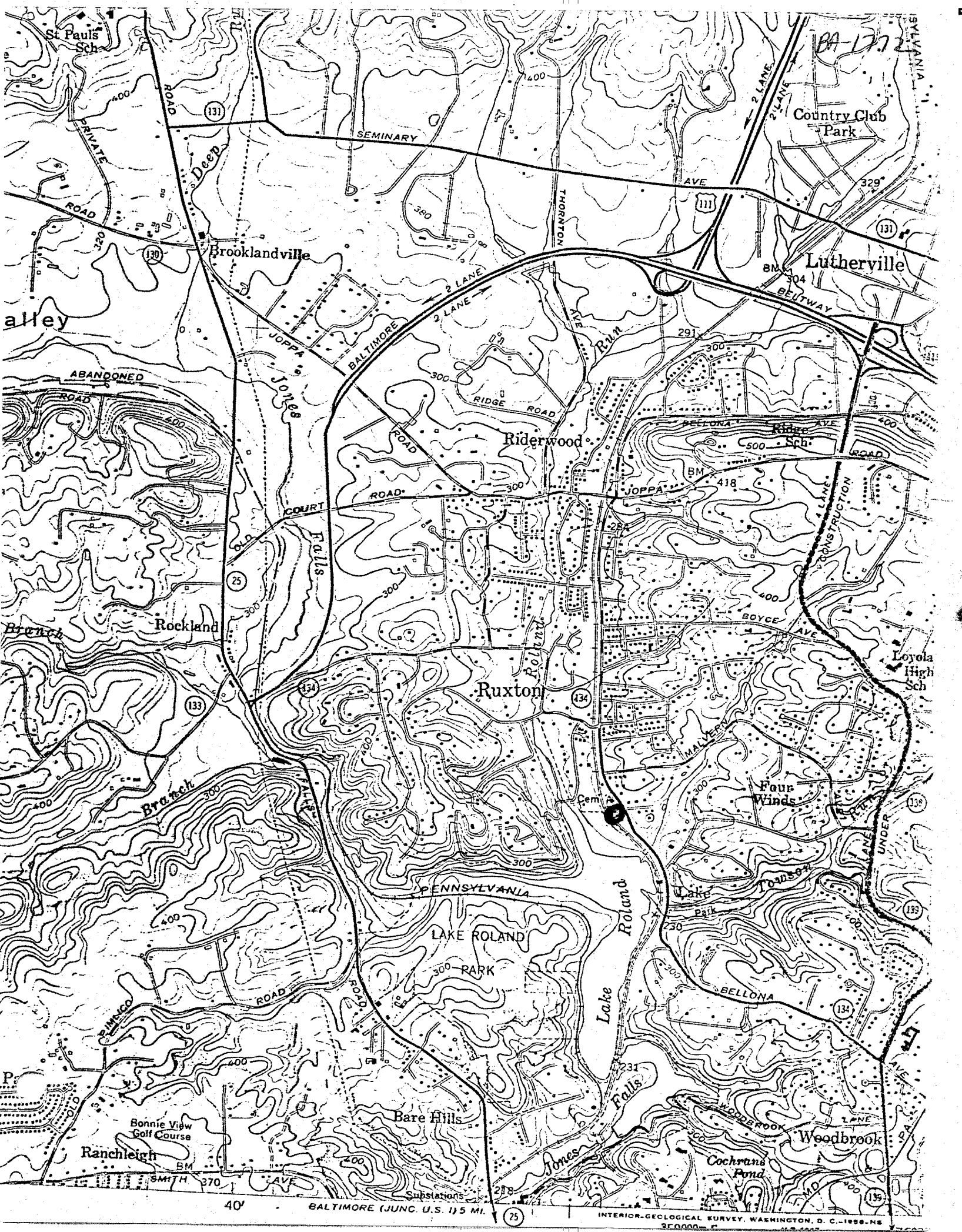


OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION
TAX MAP DIVISION
INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN COMPILED
FROM DESCRIPTIONS AND IS NOT AN ACTUAL SURVEY
NOT BE USED FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS - USERS
SHOULD BE URGED TO NOTIFY DEPARTMENT

PROPERTY LINE
SUB-DIVISION BOUNDARY
CONTINUING OWNERSHIP - 7 1 E - 7 - 7 - 7 -
PARCEL NUMBER - P. 349 (ASSIGNED TO IDENTIFY AND INDEX
OWNERSHIP MUST BE PRECEDED

BA-1772

69





BA-1772

FRAMEDWELLING NEAR
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
S. FACADE

W. NIELD
3/79



HALL OR BUNGALOW, ST. JOHN'S BA 1772
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain April 1, 1981
Neg. located at MHT
North and east facades, from NE
~~Photo 42 of 42~~



BA-1772

FRAME DWELLING

J. CORCORAN

7/79



BA-1772

FRAME DWELLING

J. CORCORAN

7/79